



Forest Tax and Stewardship News



COMING TO YOU ONCE AGAIN!

By Ken Hujanen

Welcome back, or should we say we are glad to be back. The *Forest Tax and Stewardship Newsletter* has been "off the air" for several years now due to the cost required to produce this newsletter. This was several more years than we wanted. We have once again included the necessary funding in our DNR forestry budget. Our newsletter is meant to keep you informed of natural resource topics and tax law issues. We will continue to ask for articles from others that we feel may be of interest to our landowners. Our first returning issue is short, but only because we wanted to send you the enclosed copy of the *Ingraining Sustainable Forestry* supplement from February's *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine. There are great articles in this supplement that we believe you will find of interest. We hope you are glad to see the newsletter coming to you again. And, as before, we will be publishing the newsletter on a biannual basis. 🌲



A MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE FORESTER, GENE FRANCISCO

"I want to take this moment to commend each of you for your long-term commitment to forestry in Wisconsin. You are not only looking at the immediate use of your lands, but long-term for all the natural resources for your family, community and the people of the state as a whole. You are working toward sustainability of our forest resources for generations in the future. Thank you." 🌲



PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2004 STUMPAGE RATE TABLES

By Ken Hujanen

Annually, we are required by state law to review and adjust our stumpage rate tables. The stumpage rate tables are used to calculate the timber sale values used when we bill Forest Crop and Managed Forest Law landowners for severance and yield taxes. The rates are established for 13 zones in the state for saw timber, cordwood, and piece products, as well as for a wide variety of species, including both hardwoods and softwoods. The tables are established through the Administrative Code process. Our preliminary rates show increases of 2.85% in saw timber prices and 8.63% in cordwood prices. We will be holding a hearing on these proposed rate increases in Wausau on May 13, 2002, at 11 a.m. in City Hall. To obtain a copy of the hearing notice, write to Ken Hujanen, Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 7963, Madison, Wisconsin 53707. We will also be accepting written comments through May 17, 2002. This is your opportunity to comment on the stumpage rates which will take effect November 1, 2003, and which will affect your severance and yield taxes. 🌲



2003 MANAGED FOREST LAW APPLICATIONS

By Carol Nielsen

This year, foresters are working on processing a record number of Managed Forest Law (MFL) applications. Over 3,900 applications were received for the 2003 entry year; this is more than double what we received for the 2000 entry year. We have included all of these future MFL partners in our current mailing. We hope that it will help them become more familiar with the program they are entering. Due to the high number of

applications, the department has turned to contracting with private consultant foresters to accomplish some of the work involved in entering these lands into the MFL. During the course of this spring and summer, a DNR forester or a consultant forester that the department has contracted with will be out to review the lands being entered and write a Managed Forest Stewardship Plan. We want to welcome our new partners to the program!



LEGISLATIVE AUDIT OF THE FORESTRY PROGRAM

By Ken Hujanen

The recent Forestry Audit completed by Wisconsin's Legislative Audit Bureau scrutinized the managed forest program closely in the process. A major concern addressed in the report was the high number of mandatory practices required of landowners, which have not been completed. The Division of Forestry, as a result, is required to submit a report to the legislature on the status of the overdue mandatory practices by the end of December 2002. What this means to you is that our foresters will be working as expeditiously as possible to reduce the backlog of work, referring lists of overdue practices to private cooperating foresters, and beginning enforcement action on those landowners not willing to complete their practices. If you have an overdue practice, please begin considering how you will be able to complete it. If you are not sure, pull out your management plan, written when you entered into the program, and study what practices you have to do and when they are to be completed by. 🌲



NOTICE!

To avoid unwanted withdrawals and penalties, seek your DNR forester's advice before selling or transferring ownership of your tax law land.



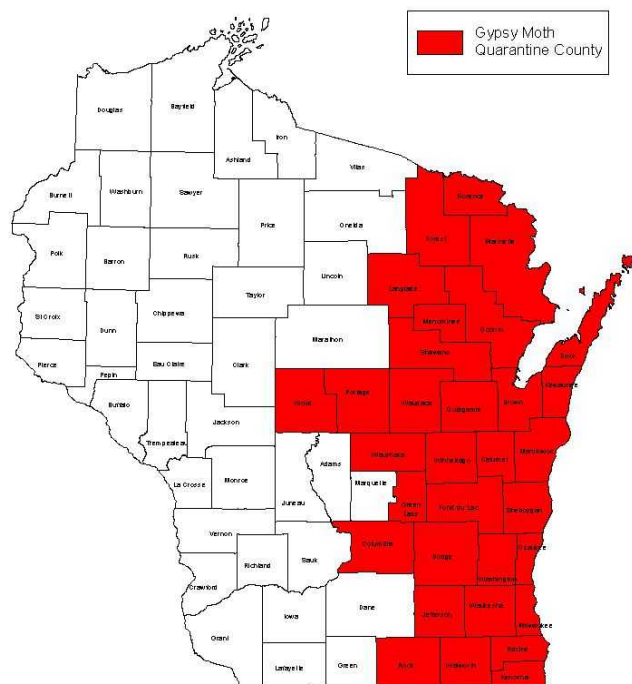
GYPSY MOTH QUARANTINE EXPANDS WESTWARD INTO 9 NEW COUNTIES

By Adrea Diss

A quarantine due to gypsy moth means that you will have to have your saw logs inspected and free of the pest prior to shipping them into **unquarantined** counties or states. For pulp sticks, you will need to inform the receiving mill and there may be short periods in a year within which you will be unable to ship. If the mill you are sending your logs to is within the quarantined area, however, no inspection or other treatment is needed. The map below shows the quarantined counties in Wisconsin. The Upper Peninsula of Michigan is entirely quarantined, whereas all of Minnesota is unquarantined. For more information, contact:

Bob Dahl, WI Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911 or call 608-224-4571. 🌲

2002 Gypsy Moth Quarantine Counties



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection - 3/02